

Mansfield Commission on Aging Agenda
Monday, January 10, 2005, 2004 2:30 PM – Senior Center

PRESENT: K. Doeg, P. Hope (staff), M. Thatcher, C. Phillips, B. Acebo, E. Norris, N. Stevens, J. Brubacher, C. McMillan, K. Grunwald (staff)

REGRETS: S. Thomas, D. Mercier, P. Secker

I. Call to Order: meeting was called to order at 2:35 PM by assistant Chair E. Norris

II. Appointment of Recording Secretary: K. Grunwald agreed to take minutes for the meeting.

III. Acceptance of Minutes of the December 13, 2004 meeting were accepted, with the correction that Barbara Levine should be changed to Barbara Lavoie.

IV. Correspondence - Chair and Staff: none

V. Optional Reports on Services/Needs of Town Aging Populations

A. Health Care Services

Wellness Center and Wellness Program – P. Hope reported for J. Kenny, who was not present, and a copy of her report was distributed. N. Stevens asked about the use of volunteer drivers, and K. Grunwald and P. Hope talked about a manual that they recently worked on to identify guidelines for the use of volunteer drivers. The staff is interested in putting together a program to support the use of volunteer drivers, and the program needs to be reviewed by the Town's attorney.

K. Doeg asked about the diabetes support group that is meeting, and wondered if staff is aware that there is a Diabetes Educator at Windham Hospital. Has she been invited to attend this support group? Also, can the Center provide transportation to get to the group at the hospital? P. Hope stated that the focus of the group is more on providing emotional support. Ken feels that the group at the hospital needs to be publicized better.

B. Social, Recreational and Educational

Senior Center – P. Hope distributed copies of her report; and stated that Linda Wohllebe is back to work on a part-time basis. Many members have been out due to illness.

Senior Center Assoc. – J. Brubacher reported that he has received a list from Barbara Lavoie at Juniper Hill of items that are needed by residents that lost their apartments in the recent fire. He has asked Jean Kenny to coordinate donations for these residents. He also mentioned that the Town Council will be discussing a proposal to

hire a consultant to conduct a market analysis for the development of an assisted living facility in the area. K. Doeg made a motion that the Commission strongly supports the move towards assisted living in Mansfield starting with the adoption of an agreement to undertake the market feasibility study that is being considered tonight. The Commission also requests that the Council keep them informed and involved regarding the status of the assisted living initiative, through the Chair, Susanna Thomas. Seconded and agreed to by all members.

C. Housing

Assisted Living Project: see earlier discussion re: J. Brubacher's comments.
Juniper Hill, Jensen's Park, Other: There was a discussion of the impact of the recent fire at Juniper Hill. It was noted that there is no representative on the Commission from Jensen's. P. Hope suggested that she can follow-up with them to see if someone is interested. Members felt that it is important to have an individual appointed to the Commission.

D. Related Town and Regional Organizations

Com. on Physically and Sensorily Impaired – no meeting in December.

Senior Resources of Eastern CT: no report.

Town Plan of Conservation and Development: no report

Town Community Center: no report

VI Old Business

Process for up-dating the Long Range Plan (2004-2014) – K.

Grunwald distributed copies of a document that he created summarizing the work of the COA on the Long Range Plan since April 2004. The proposed plan is for five years; 2005-09. He suggested that for the next meeting members do the following:

- Review this document to become familiar with what has been done
- Review the existing plan to note accomplishments and areas needing continued attention
- Identify comments and concerns in each of the 6 dimensions for each area of the plan.

VII New Business: none

VI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM

(next meeting set for Tuesday, February 14 , 2004 at 2:30, Senior Center)

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Grunwald, Director of Social Services